

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

The Cathedral of Saint Augustine

AND/OR COMMON

The Cathedral of Saint Augustine

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Cathedral Place

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

St. Augustine

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

— VICINITY OF

004

STATE

Florida

CODE

12

COUNTY

Saint John's

CODE

109

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**

— DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

— STRUCTURE

— SITE

— OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

— PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

— BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

— IN PROCESS

— BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS☒ OCCUPIED

— UNOCCUPIED

— WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

— YES: RESTRICTED

— YES: UNRESTRICTED

— NO

PRESENT USE

— AGRICULTURE

— COMMERCIAL

— EDUCATIONAL

— ENTERTAINMENT

— GOVERNMENT

— INDUSTRIAL

— MILITARY

— MUSEUM

— PARK

— PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☒ RELIGIOUS

— SCIENTIFIC

— TRANSPORTATION

— OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

The Diocese of Saint Augustine

STREET & NUMBER

Office of the Bishop, Suite 1648, Gulf Life Tower

CITY, TOWN

Jacksonville

STATE

Florida

— VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Clerk of the Circuit Court

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Drawer 299

CITY, TOWN

Saint Augustine

STATE

Florida

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE

1934, 1936

☒ FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Division of Prints and Photographs, Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Church of Saint Augustine (The Cathedral after 1870), comprises portions from two building periods, 1793-97, and 1887-88. The earlier building was a simple two-story rectangular one, 120' x 42', designed by Saint Augustine's Royal Engineer and planner, Mariano de la Rocque. Construction of the church in the eighteenth century was supervised by Miguel Iznardy.

The thick stone walls were covered with coquina, and the roof had wooden shingles. The elevation as well as the plan was very simple, and typically 18th century Spanish-colonial, but a somewhat elaborate South front graced the side facing La Plaza de la Constitucion. There, beside a neoclassical entrance, was, and is, a collection of baroque curves, ornamental mouldings, recesses, and cornices. Twin doric columns on either side of the round arch entrance, support an entablature with broken triangular pediment. A stage above this is a graceful ogee-curved wall, at the center of which we see a niche and statue of the patron saint, Augustine. Finally, above this are the four bells in round arch recesses, surmounted by a metal cross. The tower to the west of this south nave front, is completely nineteenth century.

When the fire occurred in 1887, the interior was completely gutted and only the four walls were left. James Renwick became the architect of the subsequent reconstruction and partial restoration. Retained from the old plan was the nave facade and 75 feet of the nave walls. The rectangular plan was at this time changed to a cruciform one by the addition of a pair of 37' x 35' transepts. Beyond the 75 feet of old nave wall retained, all was demolished, with a new wall being added, which then extended 12 feet beyond the original north wall. A six story bell tower was constructed at the south side, and the wood shingle roof was changed to one of clay tile.

The Victorian stained-glass windows, and the whole of the interior were added during this time too. Transepts, bell tower, and extended nave, were added in poured concrete, rather than the old coquina.

The church is maintained in excellent condition by the Diocese of Saint Augustine, and is open to the public daily.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1797, 1887-88

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Mariano de la Rocque (1797) and

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

James Renwick (1887)

The parish of Saint Augustine is the oldest one in the United States, with records going back to 1594. Even before that however, this "cradle of christianity" in America, adjacent to La Plaza de la Constitucion, witnessed the celebration of religious services. Don Pedro Menendez de Aviles, Spain, on first seeing this land in 1565, named it for his favorite saint, Saint Augustine of Hippo, and a few days later, he and his followers attended a mass celebrated by Padre Francisco Lopez de Mendoza Grajales. When the Diocese of Saint Augustine was established in 1870, the parish church became the Cathedral of Saint Augustine.

The current structure was built 1793-97, and largely destroyed by fire in 1887. All but the south front and 75 feet of the nave walls were modernized at that time by noted architect James Renwick, who enlarged the structure, added a high tower, and changed the plan from rectangular to cruciform.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

American Guide Series, Seeing Saint Augustine (Saint Augustine, Florida, 1937).
American Guide Series, Florida, A Guide to the Southernmost State (New York, 1947).
Albert C. Manucy, "The Cathedral of Saint Augustine, A Historic Site Report",
National Park Service report, June 1946.
Hugh Morrison, Early American Architecture (New York, 1952).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1

UTM REFERENCES

A 17 469840 3306780
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Cathedral of Saint Augustine is closely surrounded by buildings on the north and east sides. On the south side, the main entrance, the building is only a few feet from the street there, Cathedral Place. On the west side, a small patch of land stretches between the church and Saint George Street (Calle Real).

See continuation Sheet

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING OR FOR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

James Dillon, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

National Historic Landmarks, OAHF

STREET & NUMBER

1100 L Street N.W.

CITY OR TOWN

Washington

Landmark

Designated: April 15, 1970

DATE

Boundary Certified: June 15, 1977

TELEPHONE

STATE

D.C.

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

(NATIONAL HISTORIC
LANDMARKS)

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 6/24/77

DATE

(NATIONAL HISTORIC
LANDMARKS)

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St. Augustine

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

At the intersection of Cathedral Place and St. George Street on the east curb line of St. George Street, proceed north approximately 185' to a point; thence easterly to a point 20' east of the church; thence south to the north curb of Cathedral Place; thence west along the northern curb to the point of origin. Less than one acre of land is enclosed by this boundary.